

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

Provisions similar to this section were contained in section 8456 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 100-238.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Section effective Jan. 1, 1987, and applicable with respect to benefits payable based on a death or disability occurring on or after that date, see section 124(c) of Pub. L. 100-238 set out as an Effective Date of 1988 Amendment note under section 8337 of this title.

§ 8465. Waiver, allotment, and assignment of benefits

(a) An individual entitled to an annuity payable from the Fund may decline to accept all or any part of the amount of the annuity by a waiver signed and filed with the Office. The waiver may be revoked in writing at any time. Payment of the annuity waived may not be made for the period during which the waiver is in effect.

(b) An individual entitled to an annuity payable from the Fund may make allotments or assignments of amounts from the annuity for such purposes as the Office considers appropriate.

(Added Pub. L. 99-335, title I, §101(a), June 6, 1986, 100 Stat. 575.)

§ 8466. Application for benefits

(a) No payment of benefits based on the service of an employee or Member shall be made from the Fund unless an application for payment of the benefits is received by the Office before the one hundred and fifteenth anniversary of the birth of the employee or Member.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), after the death of an employee, Member, or annuitant, or former employee or Member, a benefit based on the service of such employee, Member, or annuitant, or former employee or Member, shall not be paid under subchapter II or IV of this chapter unless an application therefor is received by the Office within 30 years after the death or other event which establishes the entitlement to the benefit.

(c)(1) Payment due a minor, or an individual mentally incompetent or under other legal disability, may be made to the person (including an organization) who is constituted guardian or other fiduciary by the law of the State of residence of the claimant or is otherwise legally vested with the care of the claimant or his estate. If a guardian or other fiduciary of the individual under legal disability has not been appointed under the law of the State of residence of the claimant, payment may be made to any person (including an organization) who, in the judgment of the Office, is responsible for the care of the claimant and may appropriately receive such payments on behalf of the claimant, and the payment bars recovery by any other person.

(2) If the Office determines that direct payment of a benefit to an individual mentally incompetent or under other legal disability would cause substantial harm to the individual, the Of-

fice may defer or suspend direct payment of the benefit until such time as the appointment of a representative payee is made. The Office shall resume payment as soon as practicable, including all amounts due.

(d) The Office may not authorize a person to receive payments on behalf of a minor or individual of legal disability under subsection (c) if that person has been convicted of a violation of—

- (1) section 8345a or 8466a;
- (2) section 208 or 1632 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 408, 1383a); or
- (3) section 6101 of title 38.

(Added Pub. L. 99-335, title I, §101(a), June 6, 1986, 100 Stat. 575; amended Pub. L. 116-126, §2(c)(2), (d)(2), Mar. 18, 2020, 134 Stat. 176.)

Editorial Notes**AMENDMENTS**

2020—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116-126, §2(c)(2), designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted “(including an organization)” after “to the person” and after “to any person”, inserted “and may appropriately receive such payments on behalf of the claimant” after “care of the claimant”, and added par. (2).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 116-126, §2(d)(2), added subsec. (d).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2020 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 116-126 effective on Mar. 18, 2020, and applicable on and after the effective date of regulations promulgated under section 3(b)(1) of Pub. L. 116-126, see sections 4 and 3(b) of Pub. L. 116-126, set out respectively as an Effective Date of 2020 Amendment note and a Regulations note under section 8331 of this title.

REGULATIONS

Regulations to carry out amendment by Pub. L. 116-126 to be promulgated by Office of Personnel Management no later than 1 year after Mar. 18, 2020, with allowance for additional regulations relating to administration of representative payee program, see section 3(b) of Pub. L. 116-126, set out as a note under section 8331 of this title.

§ 8466a. Embezzlement or conversion of payments

(a) **EMBEZZLING AND CONVERSION GENERALLY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—It shall be unlawful for a representative payee to embezzle or in any manner convert all or any part of the amounts received from payments received as a representative payee to a use other than for the use and benefit of the minor or individual on whose behalf such payments were received.

(2) **REVOCATION.**—If the Office determines that a representative payee has embezzled or converted payments as described in paragraph (1), the Office shall promptly—

(A) revoke the certification for payment of benefits to the representative payee; and

(B) certify payment—

(i) to another representative payee; or

(ii) if the interest of the individual under this title would be served thereby, to the individual.

(b) **PENALTY.**—Any person who violates subsection (a)(1) shall be fined under title 18, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.